Rakudai Kishi no Cavalry

Created by Soramichi Megumu & Misora Riki

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A PEACEFUL EVERYDAY SCENE...

RAKUDAI KISHI NO EIYUUTAN

AHH...

A train?

MAN OH MAN, LOOKS LIKE THIS YEAR'LL BE AS HOT AS EVER.

Haa...

Haa...

Haa...

Haa

Haa...

2

HEY YOU!

ARE YOU OKAY!?

H—

I'LL CALL YOU AN AMBU-LANCE...
...
HMM?

DOESN'T LOOK THAT WAY!
YEAH...
I'M... FINE...

THIS BOY...
ISN'T HE THE ONE WHO SEDUCED THE PRINCESS, OR WHATEVER THAT RUMOR WAS...!?

.....
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MOUNTAIN ROUTE 2

AH—

SORRY, I'M IN A HURRY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN, BUT...

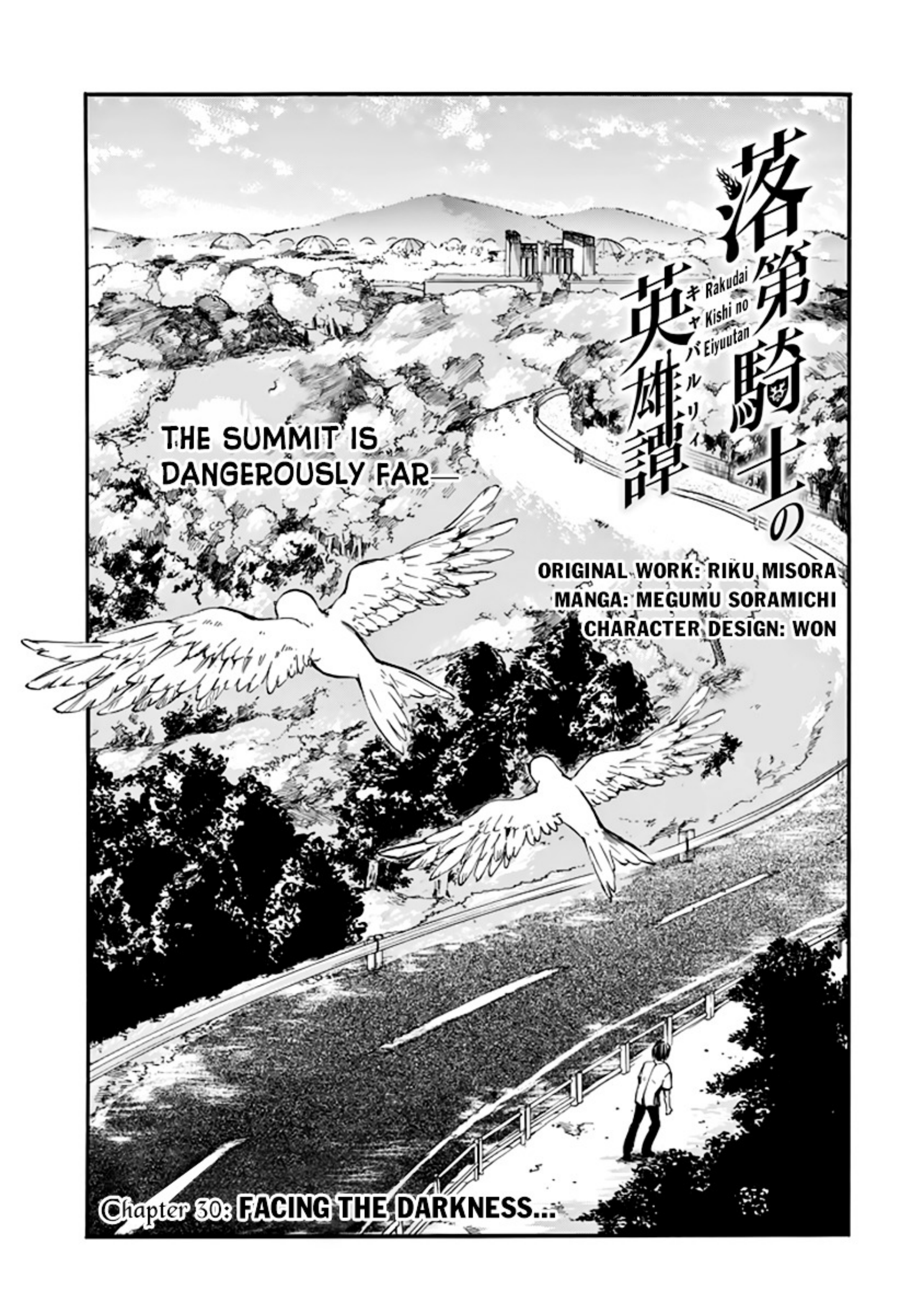
Elevator Escalator

Exit

MORE POLITE THAN THE NEWS SAID...

...HE'S A LOT

I THINK...


落第騎士の英雄譚
Rakudai Kishi no Eiyuutan
THE SUMMIT IS DANGEROUSLY FAR—
ORIGINAL WORK: RIKU MISORA
MANGA: MEGUMU SORAMICHI
CHARACTER DESIGN: WON
Chapter 30: FACING THE DARKNESS...

IT HURTS ...

GUH...

COUGH

COUGH

Haa

Haa

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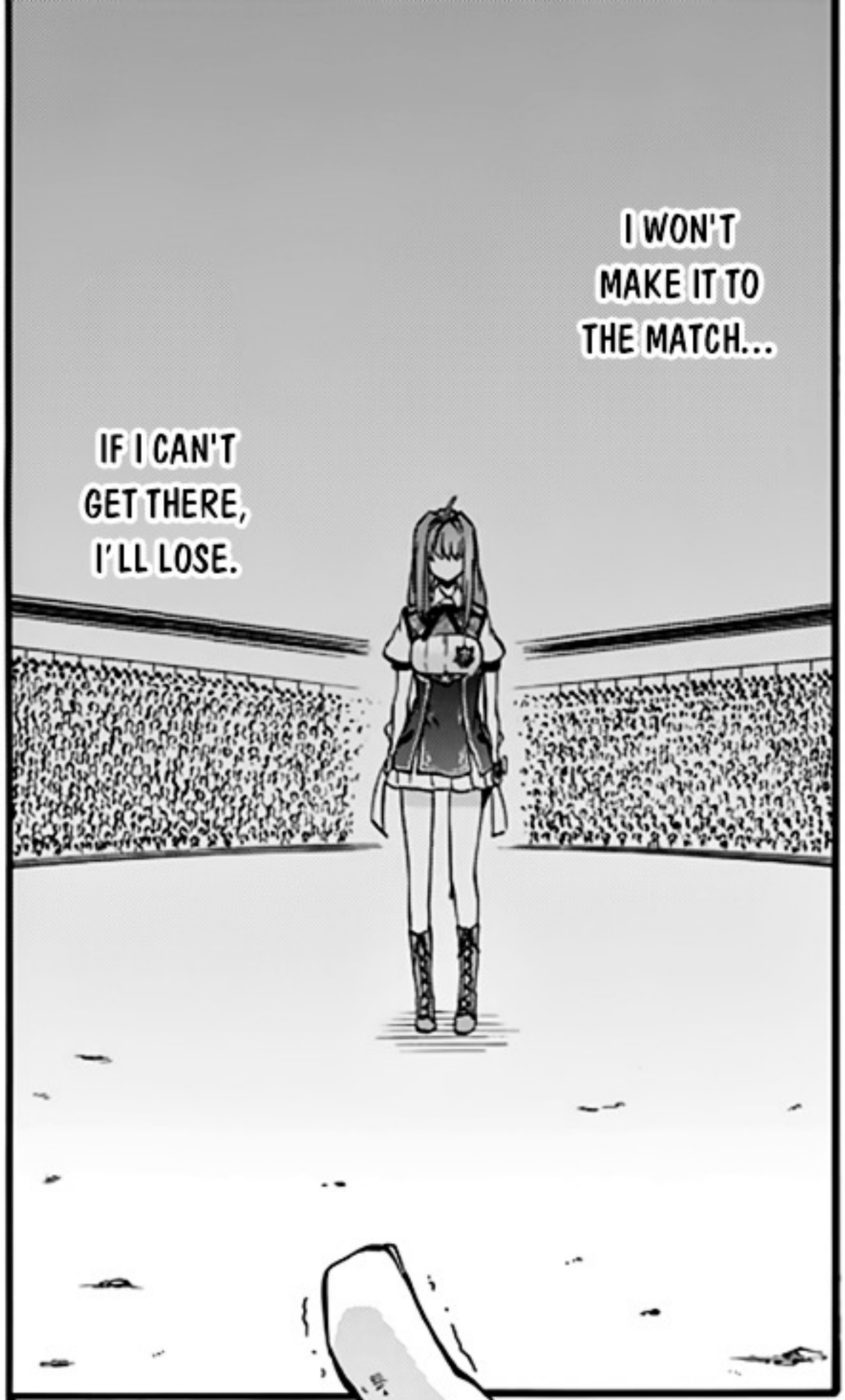
I HAVE TO CHALLENGE RAIKIRI LIKE THIS...?

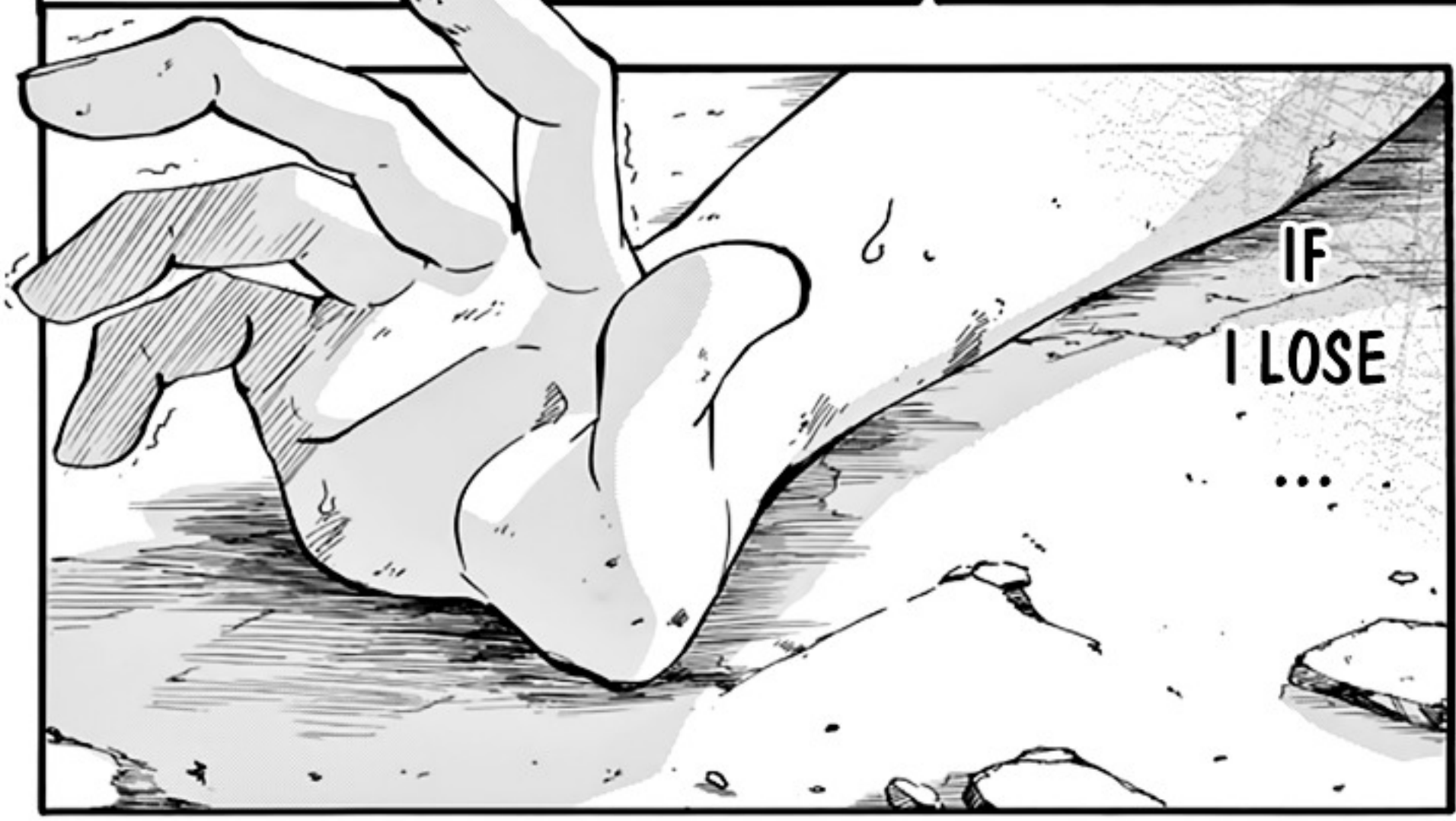
IT'S BASICALLY SUICIDE.

IMPOSSIBLE...

IN THE FIRST PLACE, THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE AS HOLLOW AS ME, HOLDING A SWORD AS EMPTY AS MINE
CAN DEFEAT SOMEONE SO PROUD.
...I CAN'T WIN.
カ!!!


I WON'T MAKE IT TO THE MATCH...
IF I CAN'T GET THERE, I'LL LOSE.

NO...
IF I DON'T GET UP...


IF I LOSE ...

HUH...?

WHAT WOULD... HAPPEN ...?

IN THE END... NOTHING'S CHANGED SINCE THAT DAY IN THE SNOW...

ALL I'VE DONE IS STRUGGLE...

NOT A SINGLE EXPECTATION, NOT A SINGLE ACCOMPLISH-MENT.

NOT... A SINGLE THING HAS CHANGED FOR ME.

REALLY, WHAT'VE I BEEN DOING ...?

I JUST...

WANT TO SLEEP...

HAGUN ACADEMY PRACTICE ARENA #1

WOW, THE PLACE IS PACKED AGAIN, HUH?

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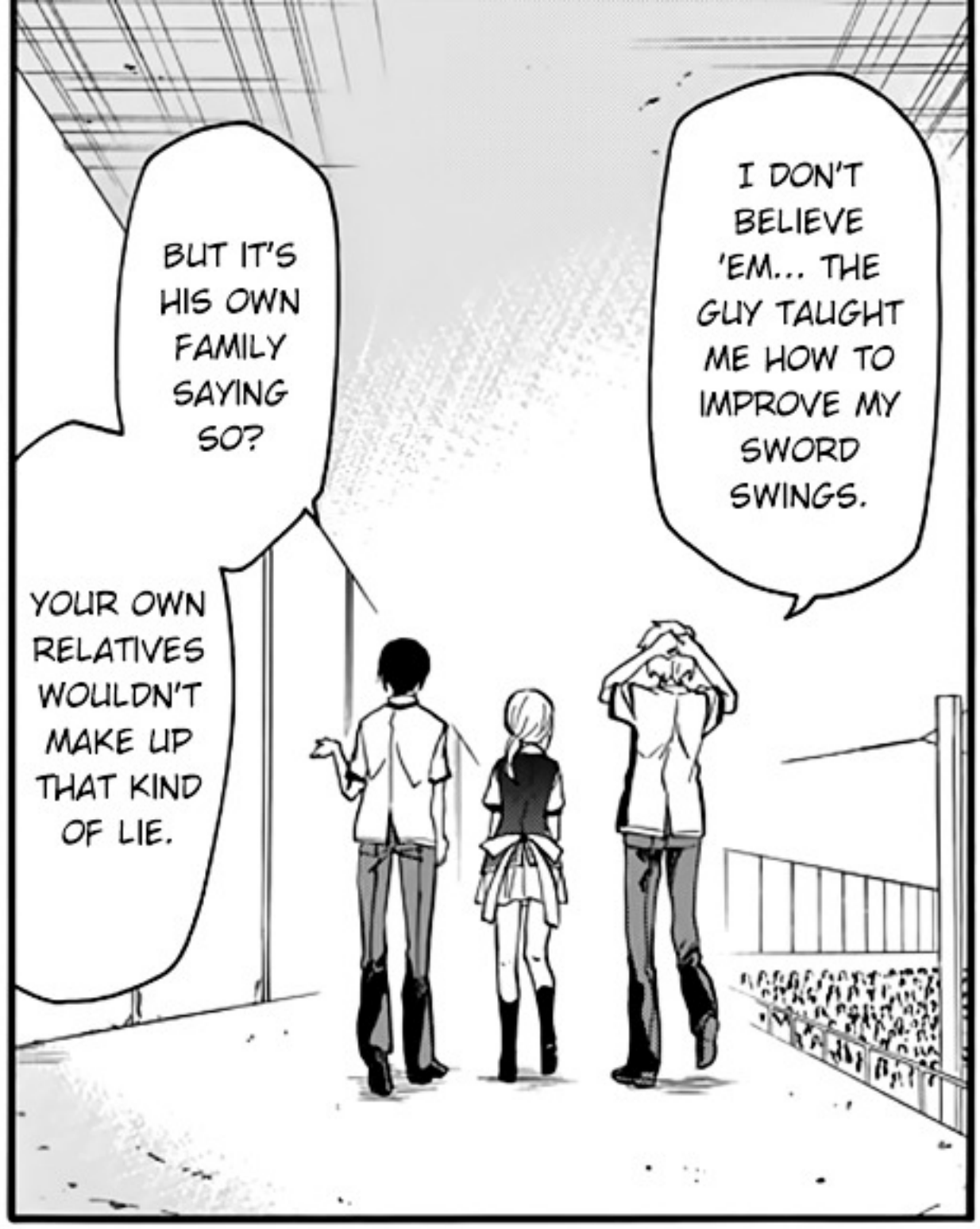
バラ バラ

SHEESH... THAT RED TANUKI PLANNED IT OUT THIS FAR.

AND A NATIONWIDE LIVE BROAD-CAST TOO, IT SEEMS.

EHH...
I DUNNO.


BUT IT'S HIS OWN FAMILY SAYING SO?
YOUR OWN RELATIVES WOULDN'T MAKE UP THAT KIND OF LIE.
I DON'T BELIEVE 'EM... THE GUY TAUGHT ME HOW TO IMPROVE MY SWORD SWINGS.

YEAH.
ESPECIALLY AMONG THE ONES WHO'VE MET KUROGANE PERSONALLY.
IT LOOKS LIKE NOT ALL OF THE KIDS JUST ACCEPT THE STORY, HUH?

AT THIS POINT, TRUTH DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
BUT...

WHO COULD'VE KNOWN IT WOULD ALL COME DOWN TO A DUEL?

I THOUGHT WE SHOULD HOLD OUT UNTIL VERMILLION'S FATHER CAME, BUT...

TCH. THEY REALLY PULLED ONE ON US.

THOSE BASTARDS.

NOW THE PROOF OF KUROGANE'S INNOCENCE HAS TO COME FROM VICTORY HERE.

GOOD AFTER-NOON.

MY~ WHAT TERRIBLY HOT WEATHER.

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HE HE HE.

ALLOW ME TO ACCEPT THE COMPLI-MENT.

...WHAT'S YOUR BUSI-NESS WITH US, AKAZA?

NOW NOW, NO NEED TO BARE YOUR FANGS.

AHH,

WE'VE FINALLY FOUND THEM.

IT'S NOT ME WHO HAS BUSINESS, BUT RATHER SENSEI WHO ASKED ME TO BRING HIM TO THE TWO OF YOU.

GAH!

ヒラ

OLD MAN!

HO HO HO.

MY FAVORITE PUPIL, YOUR MOUTH IS AS ROTTEN AS EVER.

ヒラ

HOW ABOUT ACTING MORE HONESTLY AND JUST BE HAPPY?

Your face is red.

DON'T SAY SUCH CREEPY THINGS!

KEH.

WELL, THAT'S WHAT MAKES YOU CUTE, NO?

AND ALSO...

HER OPPONENT IS A KUROGANE, SO MY FEET CARRIED ME HERE ON THEIR OWN.

TO SEE MY STUDENT TOUKA ON STAGE, OF COURSE.

THAT ASIDE, NANGOU-SENSEI, WHY ARE YOU HERE?

HE HE HE.

ALAS...

TODAY'S MATCH MIGHT NOT HAPPEN FOR SOME REASON OR ANOTHER.

SIR RYOUMA KUROGANE WAS NANGOU-SENSEI'S LIFE-LONG RIVAL, AFTER ALL.

IT IS TIME FOR THE MATCH BETWEEN CONTENDER TOUKA TOUDOU AND CONTENDER IKKI KUROGANE.

BUT CONTENDER IKKI KUROGANE HAS NOT YET ARRIVED IN THE WAITING ROOM.

WHAT?

ATTENTION EVERYONE.

IN THE EVENT THAT CONTENDER KUROGANE DOES NOT ARRIVE WITHIN THE NEXT TEN MINUTES,

OH MY, OH MY.

THEN ACCORDING TO MATCH RULES, HE WILL LOSE BY DEFAULT.

SINCE TRAINS WERE AVAILABLE, HE COULD ALSO COME ON HIS OWN.

AH, MY APOLO-GIZES.

I **COMPLETELY** FORGOT TO MENTION IT.

KUROGANE SHOULD'VE BEEN BROUGHT HERE WITH YOU, ETHICS CHAIRMAN AKAZA.

WASN'T THAT WHAT YOU TOLD ME?

コッ

THOUGH HE WASN'T IN VERY GOOD CONDITION.

I DO HOPE HE DIDN'T COLLAPSE ALONG THE WAY, YES?

DON'T BLOW YOUR TOP, KUU-CHAN.

THIS SON OF A BITCH ...!

KURO-BOU ACCEPTED THE DUEL.

HOWEVER IT GOT THIS WAY,

WHAT WE DO COMES AFTER.

THAT'S TRUE.

YEAH.

ふ...

THINGS HAVE GONE WELL UP TO THIS POINT.

HE HE HE.

ONCE IKKI-KUN IS BANISHED FROM THE LEAGUE, MY POSITION WILL RISE FROM ETHICS CHAIRMAN TO PUBLIC RELATIONS CHIEF.

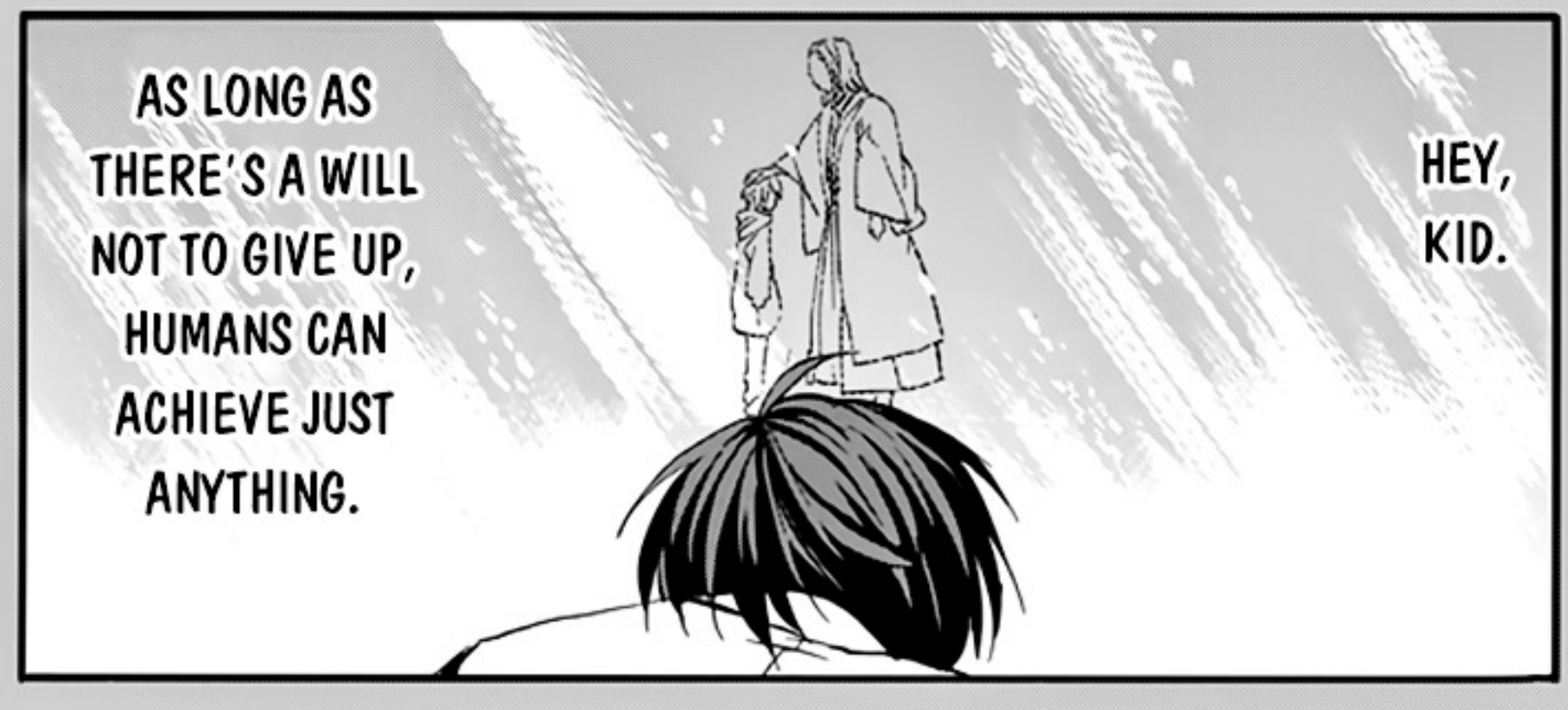
I'LL BID FAIRWELL TO THE ROLE OF VILLAIN HIDING IN THE BRANCH'S SHADOW.

EVEN IF IKKI-KUN'S LIFE IS AT RISK, WHAT DIFFERENCE WOULD THAT MAKE?

IT'S HARDLY MY RESPONSIBILITY.

BUT I'LL CRUSH IKKI-KUN UTTERLY.

REGRETTABLE IT MAY BE


AS LONG AS THERE'S A WILL NOT TO GIVE UP, HUMANS CAN ACHIEVE JUST ANYTHING.
HEY, KID.

...BUT WAS THAT MEETING THE RIGHT THING FOR YOU?

IT BURDENED YOU WITH SOLITUDE AND AGONY.

WHILE STEALING GLANCES AT SWORD TRAINING EVEN BRANCH FAMILY KIDS RECEIVED...

THE SOLITUDE OF HIDING AWAY TO PRACTICE

THE AGONY OF CHALLENGING DOJOS

AS A MIDDLE-SCHOOL BRAT, AND BEING BEATEN FOR IT.

"SORRY, KUROGANE. I CAN NO LONGER BE..."
ABANDONED BY FRIENDS.
GETTING SNEERED AT BY CLASSMATES, DISDAINED BY TEACHERS...
BECAUSE OF RYOUMA KUROGANE'S IRRESPONSIBLE WORDS.
AND NOW, HERE YOU ARE AGAIN

HAD YOU SIMPLY LIVED A LIFE WITHIN YOUR MEANS,

JUST LIKE FATHER SAID,

NONE OF THIS WOULD BE NEEDED.

HEY, YOU KNOW IT'S POINTLESS, RIGHT?

BURNING...
HAIR?
WHO IS
THAT?
IF I
CLOSED
MY EYES,
I'D BE
AT EASE.
IF I
KEPT GOING,
THERE'D BE
NOTHING BUT
HEARTBREAK.
YEAH...
THAT'S RIGHT.
I SHOULD JUST
REST.

IT'S A PROMISE.

I CAN'T TELL...

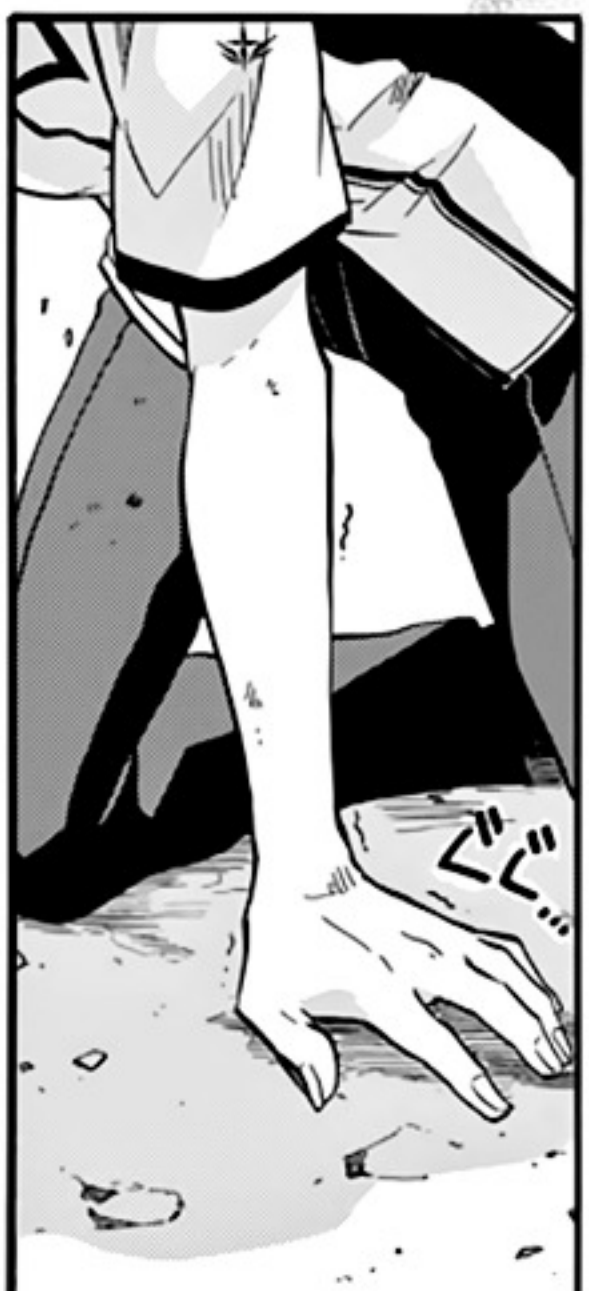
BUT...

I DID... MAKE AN OATH TO SOMEONE PRECIOUS.

SO—GO

HIGH—

KNIGH—



AH
JUST STOP IT. WHY DO YOU KEEP HURTING YOURSELF?
AAA HHH
AAH
AAA HHH

I MADE—

A PROMISE

...!

BUT...

WHAT CAN YOU ACCOMPLISH WITH SUCH AN EMPTY SWORD?

...!

EVEN SO, I HAVE TO GO ON.

カッ

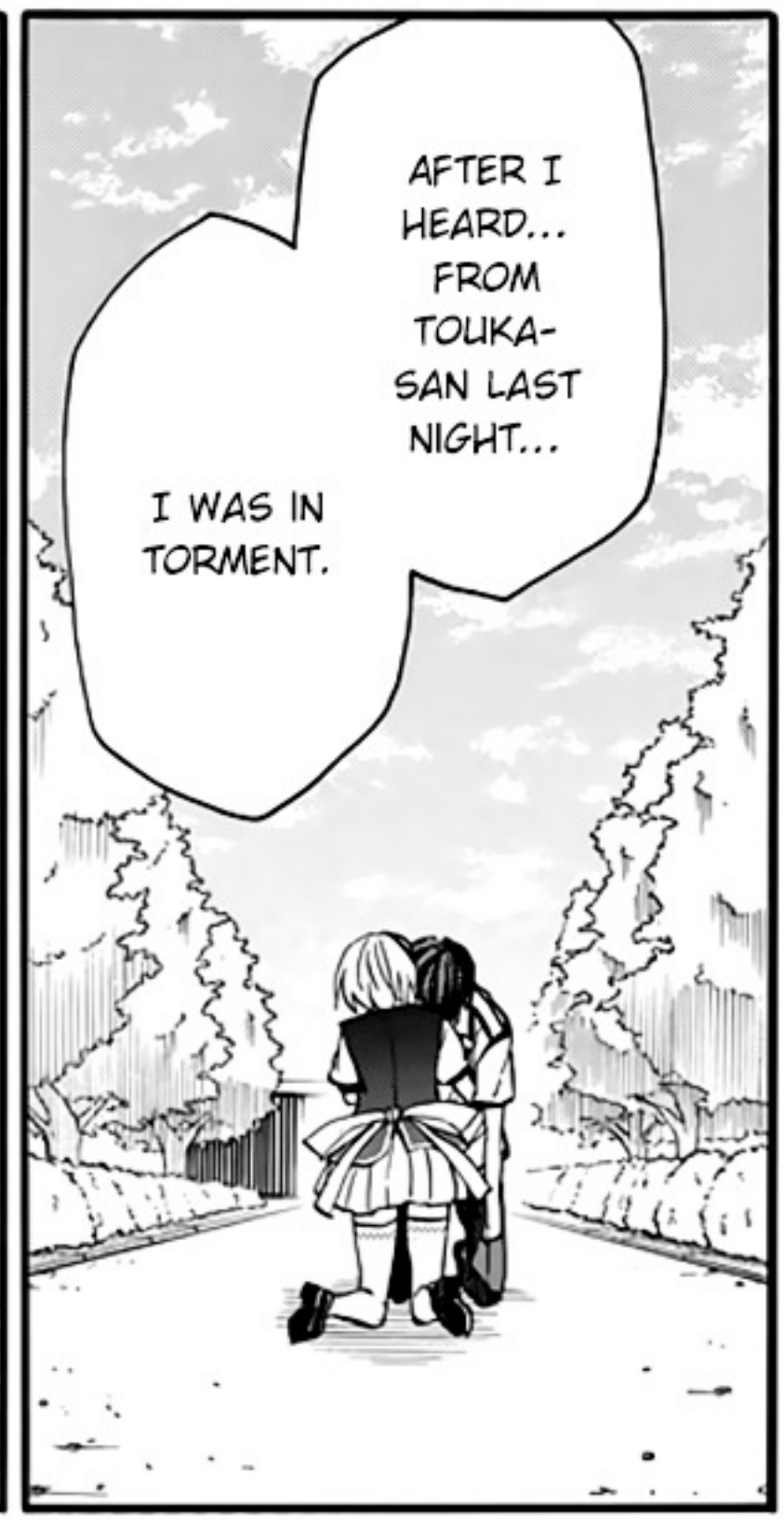
TO HER SIDE...!

ONII-SAMA.
WELCOME BACK

SHIZU
...KU.

HONEST-
LY...
I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO BE WOUNDED EVEN MORE THAN THIS.

SHOULD I TELL YOU TO STOP?


AFTER I HEARD... FROM TOUKA-SAN LAST NIGHT...
I WAS IN TORMENT.

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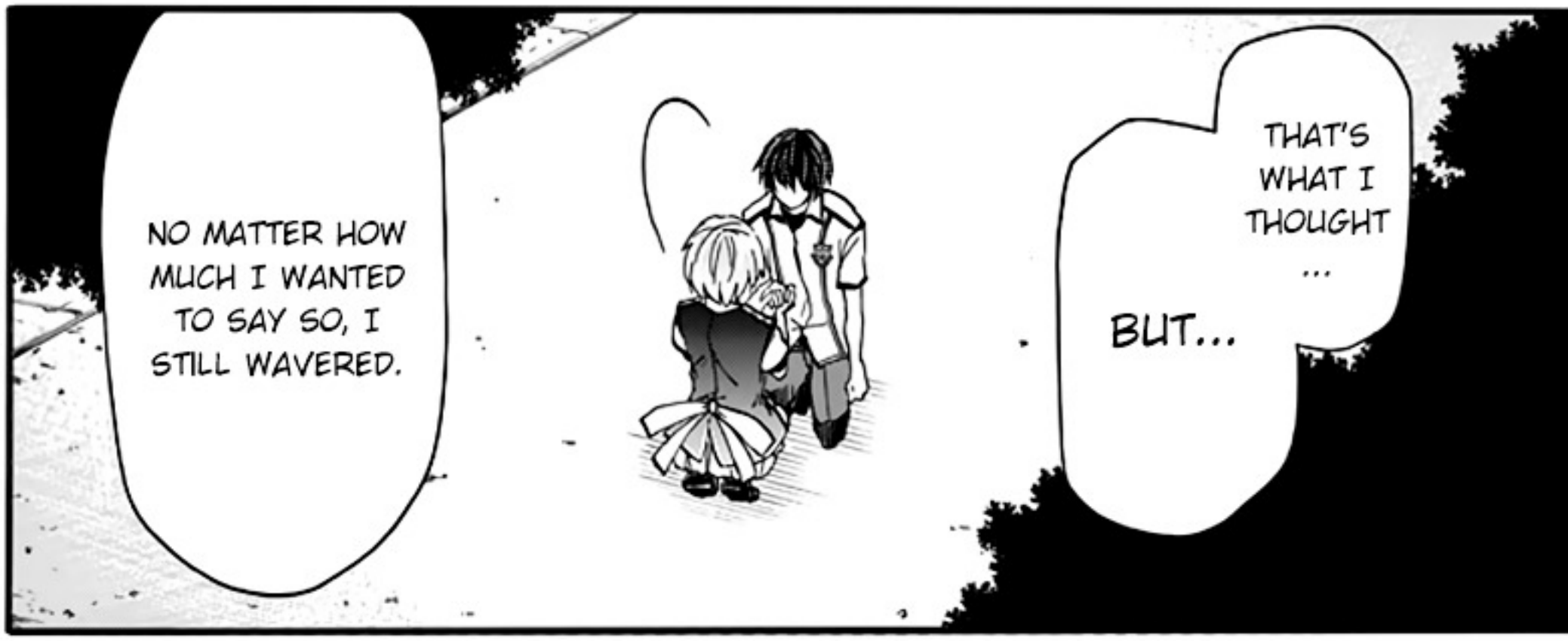
I WANTED YOU TO STOP TRYING TO BE A KNIGHT, AND COME BACK TO THE KUROGANE HOUSE WITH ME.

EVEN IF THE FAMILY DIDN'T RESPECT YOU,

I'D MAKE UP FOR ALL OF THAT ON MY OWN.



BECAUSE ONII-SAMA, WHILE YOU WERE HERE AT SCHOOL,

YOUR HAD REAL HAPPINESS IN YOUR SMILE.

SO I MADE A BET.

IF YOU CAME HERE OF YOUR OWN WILL,

THEN—

WITH ALL MY HEART.

I'D CHEER YOU ON

IKKI-KUN! FIGHT!

SENPAI, YOU'LL DEFINITELY WIN!

THE MATCH HASN'T STARTED YET! HURRY UP!

YOU WON AGAINST US, SO LET'S SEE THAT SPIRIT AGAIN!

STRIVE AND ACHIEVE.

SENPAI, YOU'LL BE FRONT PAGE NEXT ISSUE, SO LET'S GO!

KURO-GANE-KUN, IT'S YOUR MOMENT OF TRUTH!

ONII-SAMA, DON'T FORGET.

YOU'RE NOT ALONE ANYMORE.

RIGHT NOW, THESE MANY PEOPLE ARE CHEERING FOR YOU TOO.

EVEN STELLA AND ALICE WHO COULDN'T COME BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN MATCHES

WOULD DEFINITELY AGREE.

THE WORST ONE IS A HERO TO ALL OF US.
SO PLEASE FIGHT.
AND WIN!

OH...
I SEE.

SHIZU-
KU...

EVERY-
ONE...

I THOUGHT I
HAD NOTHING
IMPORTANT
TO BEAR.

BUT I WAS
WRONG.

PEOPLE WHO LOOK UP TO ME. PEOPLE WHO ADMIRE ME.

PEOPLE WHOSE DREAMS I'VE STOLEN AWAY.

AND...

THEY ALL HAVE DIFFER-ENT HOPES THEY'VE ENTRUSTED TO ME.

AT SOME POINT, I BECAME THAT KIND OF PERSON.

IKKIII!

SHE AND I ARE NOW KNIGHTS WITH EQUAL WEIGHT UPON OUR SHOULDERS.

I'LL FIGHT...

I'M OFF—

EVERY-ONE, THANKS.

THANK GOOD-NESS,
Haa
Haa
I MADE IT...!
WH... STELLA-SAN!?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN A MATCH...!

IKKI
LIKE WE PROMISED, I'M NOW A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SEVEN STARS SWORD-ART FESTIVAL!
SO THAT MEANS YOU HAVE TO WIN TOO!

AND LET'S GO TOGETHER!
AS HIGH AS KNIGHTS CAN GO!

IS REALLY SO WONDERFUL.

AHH... THE GIRL I LOVE...

I'M IN LOVE WITH HER.

THAT'S SOMETHING I'M PROUD OF.

WHICH MEANS I HAVE TO BE WORTHY... SO...

ALWAYS GIVING ME COURAGE

AND STRENGTH, EVEN NOW...!

YEAH.
I'M GOING TO WIN, STELLA!
TO BE CONTINUED
10/6
WITH ALL THESE HOPES PLACED UPON HIS SWORD, HE PROCEEDS TO BATTLE —!